

INNERLEITHEN 5 FEBRUARY 2019. At Innerleithen Church on Tuesday the fifth day of February 2019, the Presbytery met at 7pm and, in the absence of the Moderator, was constituted by a former Moderator, Rev Margaret Steele.

SEDERUNT AND APOLOGIES: There were present 12 ministers and 26 elders whose names were recorded in the attendance book. Apologies were also recorded in the book.

MINUTES: The minute of the meeting of 4 December 2018 was submitted and approved.

ORDER OF BUSINESS: The order of business was approved as printed.

PATH OF RENEWAL – PRESENTATION BY INNERLEITHEN, TRAQUAIR AND WALKERBURN: Mr Jim Borthwick, Session Clerk of Innerleithen, Traquair and Walkerburn Church, gave a presentation on the impact of Path of Renewal in recent years. Innerleithen, Traquair and Walkerburn had been chosen as a pilot congregation for Path of Renewal in 2015, following which a Path of Renewal Team was formed. One of the main developments from Path of Renewal since then had been to widen the church's focus from Sunday services, helping the congregation to engage more with the people in the community. Just a few of the many activities which have resulted include: Days for Girls Workshops in the church, an extension of the Malawi link beyond the church and into High Street businesses, and involvement with young people through Bike Punks and Food Punks. Mr Borthwick emphasised that the Path of Renewal project is very much a continuing one for Innerleithen, Traquair and Walkerburn, and that they are also hoping to encourage other congregations starting out on their own Path of Renewal journey.

REGISTRATION OF MINISTRIES: The Clerk presented the Register of Ministries as at 1 January 2019. Presbytery received the report. Presbytery approved the updated Register of Ministries as at 1 January 2019.

APPOINTMENT OF PASTORAL CARE OF MINISTERS CHAPLAIN – REV NANCY NORMAN: Presbytery thanked the Mission and Service Committee (especially Rev Rae Clark as Pastoral Care Co-ordinator) for its work in recent years. Pastoral Care of Ministers having been moved outwith the standing committee structure, Presbytery now appointed Rev Nancy Norman as the Pastoral Care of Ministers Chaplain and, on behalf of Presbytery, the Moderator warmly welcomed her to that role.

BUSINESS COMMITTEE: In the absence of the Convener, Rev Rosie Frew presented the report of the Business Committee. Presbytery received the report.

1. Presbytery resolved to appoint Commissioners to the General Assembly (18-24 May 2019). Presbytery noted that its allocation of ministers for 2019 is four (plus an equal number of elders). The ministers/interim moderators of the following charges are asked to confirm to the Clerk by 21 February 2019 whether or not they are willing to accept commission, and submit the name of an elder to accompany them: Upper Tweeddale; Ettrick and Yarrow; Lyne and Manor l/w Peebles: St Andrew's Leckie; Stow and Heriot. Presbytery noted that the Very Rev David Arnott and the Very Rev Dr Finlay Macdonald also plan to attend the General Assembly of 2019; names of two possible additional accompanying elders should be submitted to the Clerk by 21 February 2019.
2. Presbytery noted that Mrs Fran Selkirk is no longer the Presbytery representative for Ashkirk Church and appointed Mrs Selkirk (in her capacity as Reader) as a Corresponding Member of Presbytery.
3. Presbytery noted that Rev Rosie Frew attended on behalf of Presbytery the Radical Action Plan Presbytery Conference on 31 January 2019.

AFTER A BREAK FOR TEA/COFFEE, PRESBYTERY MET IN ITS COMMITTEES.

PRESBYTERY RESUMED WITH ALL MEETING TOGETHER.

GOVERNANCE: Rev Rosie Frew, Convener, presented the report of the Governance Committee. Presbytery received the report. Presbytery noted that the annual inspection of congregational records will take place on Thursday 21 March 2019 in Innerleithen Church at 10am, and that details of the records to be inspected will be sent to Session Clerks shortly.

PROPERTY AND STEWARDSHIP: Mrs Isobel Hunter, Convener, presented the report of the Property and Stewardship Committee. Presbytery received the report. Presbytery approved the use of funds from the Ministries and Mission rebate in the amount of £1,200 towards a shortfall in the cost of the Worship Leader course for 2018. Presbytery noted that an information and training evening for congregational treasurers is being held at Tron Kirk, Gilmerton and Moredun Hub at 6 Ravenscroft Street on 14 March 2019 at 7pm ending at 9pm; congregational treasurers from our Presbytery will be made very welcome, and it is requested that they email Karen Campbell to say that they are coming: kkcampbell@churchofscotland.org.uk.

INTIMATIONS:

1. Place noted the following updates for the Presbytery Year Book and asks that the Clerk or Assistant Clerk are informed of any changes of details for office bearers in a congregation:
 - a. Mrs Fran Selkirk, new address and telephone: 21 Park Crescent, Newtown St Boswells; 01835 823669.
 - b. New Session Clerk at Ashkirk Parish Church: Mrs Marjory Dooley, Castanea, The Woll, Ashkirk TD7 4NY; Tel: 01750 32710; email: marjory.dooley@yahoo.co.uk.
 - c. New Session Clerk at Peebles: St Andrews Leckie Church: Miss Kathleen Mason, 57 Northgate, Peebles EH45 8BU; Tel: 01721 721999; email: kathleen@standrewsleckie.co.uk.

2. Congregational Statistics forms are now due – please could Kirk Sessions submit all remaining forms to the Assistant Clerk as a matter of urgency.
3. Committees and Kirk Sessions are reminded to monitor compliance with the General Assembly Remits referred to them by Presbytery in its meeting of September 2018.
4. From Rev Sheila Moir: Safeguarding coordinator training has been arranged for Saturday 2 March 2019 in St Boswells Parish Church Hall, St Boswells (not to be mistaken with Newtown St Boswells). The morning session is for new coordinators; therefore if there is a change in your congregation, would you please pass this information on to the new coordinator. The session begins with registration from 9.30am and will commence at 10.00am; we shall break for lunch at 12.30 (ish), and the afternoon session beginning at 1.30pm will be for all coordinators in the Presbytery bounds, as well as members of Safeguarding Panels. We would appreciate it if you would let us (Sheila Moir or Fran Selkirk) know of your intention to attend. If there are coordinators in a linked charge, whose details we do not have, please inform them.
5. Worship Leader Course 2019: Dates for the 2019 course for Worship Leaders are: 23 March, 27 April and 25 May 2019. Ministers and Presbytery Elders are invited to intimate the course dates across congregations. Indications of interest and requests for more information should be sent to the Mission and Service Convener in the first instance: graeme.donald@btopenworld.com.
6. Anyone with an interest in assisting the Worship Leader course tutor this year with a view to tutoring our Worship Leader course in 2020/21, being an Assessor of Worship Leaders, or interested in the planning and delivery of training programmes, please contact Mr Graeme Donald, Mission and Service Convener.
7. Presbytery noted that Rev Bob Milne (formerly of our Presbytery) will be spending six months in Zomba, Malawi from the end of February 2019; part of his remit will be to develop our partnership agreement with Zomba Presbytery. Presbytery members are asked to pray for Mr Milne while he is in Zomba; his whatsapp contact details can be obtained from the World Mission Co-ordinator, Dr Fiona Burnett.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. From Mission and Discipleship Council: You may have seen the recent story on the Church of Scotland website or in the press about the seemingly impossible run that is being undertaken by Mark Calder, of Embrace the Middle East, to raise awareness of their campaign to help Iraqi Christian refugees return home. Mark has recently written some materials for Mission and Discipleship and we are helping to promote awareness of his campaign. On **Sunday 17-Wednesday 20 March 2019** he will be running the third of his 14 ultra-marathon pilgrim routes; 200 miles from **Melrose to Durham**, starting off along **St Cuthbert's Way to Lindisfarne**. Mark is looking for help along the way - financial and prayerful- in support of the campaign, and importantly, for people to turn out along the way to spur him on. You can find out more about the Embrace campaign: <https://www.runninghome2019.co.uk/what> and the run <https://www.runninghome2019.co.uk/run-details>. Presbytery noted that a church breakfast will be held in Melrose at 8am on Mark's day of departure.
2. From Presbytery of Stirling and Church and Society Council: "Being Together and Learning Together: Dementia-Friendly Developments in our Communities". Conference with 5 expert keynote speakers and workshops. Friday 22 March 2019, 10am-4pm at St Columba's Church, Stirling. For information and booking (**by 12 March 2019**) please contact Bonnie McDowell at: bmcowell@churchofscotland.org.uk.
3. From the Learn Team, Church of Scotland: Elders Conference 2019, on "Creating and Deepening Discipleship", Friday 7 June - Sunday 9 June 2019 (**Booking closes on 19 May 2019**) at Scottish Police College, Tulliallan Castle, Fife FK10 4BE. This is a conference to enthuse and inspire current and future elders in the Church of Scotland with a fresh vision of discipleship and to equip them to have a good understanding of their roles as office bearers. Further details and booking information at <https://eldersconference2019.eventbrite.co.uk>.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the Presbytery adjourned to meet for Ordinary Business on Tuesday 5 March 2019 at 7pm in Innerleithen Church, of which public intimation was made, and the *sederunt* was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk